# IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 55-60 and amend claims 31-33 as follows:

Claims 1-30 (Canceled).

31. (Currently Amended) A device for a soil cultivating machine, comprising:

a rotor adapted to be rotatably mounted to the soil cultivating device;

a plurality of tools interchangeably mounted on the rotor;

each of the plurality of tools comprising a fixing end, a soil engaging portion, and a connecting portion which connects the fixing end to the soil engaging portion;

each fixing end being freely movably fixed mounted to the rotor via an axle;

each soil engaging portion comprising a curved member having a leading edge; and

a mechanism that applies a spring force against the fixing ends of the tools such that

the fixing ends of for biasing the tools are biased against the rotor,

wherein the fixing ends of the tools are arranged between the rotor and the mechanism.

32. (Currently Amended) A device for a soil cultivating machine, comprising:

a rotor adapted to be rotatably mounted to the soil cultivating device;

a plurality of tools interchangeably mounted on the rotor;

each of the plurality of tools comprising a fixing end, a soil engaging portion, and a connecting portion which connects the fixing end to the soil engaging portion;

each fixing end comprising a ring portion which is <u>freely</u> movably <u>fixed</u> <u>mounted</u> to the rotor via an axle;

each soil engaging portion arranged below the ring portion and comprising a plate like member having a leading edge; and

a mechanism that applies a spring force against the ring portions of the tools such that the ring portions of for biasing the tools are biased against the rotor,

wherein the ring portions of the tools are arranged between the rotor and the mechanism, and

wherein each of the axles are oriented at an angle relative of a center axis of the rotor.

- 33. (Currently Amended) A tool for a soil cultivating machine having a rotor, the tool comprising:
- a fixing end comprising an upper space zone, a ring adapted to receive a journal axle, and a pivot axis;

the fixing end being adapted to be pivotally and removably mounted to a rotor about the pivot axis;

a connecting portion comprising an intermediate space zone which extends downwardly from the fixing end; and

an active portion comprising a lower space zone and an approximately planar portion having a sharp leading edge,

wherein the active portion projects towards a direction of rotation of a rotor when the tool is installed on a rotor,

wherein the fixing portion extends from an upper end of the connecting portion and wherein the active portion extends from a lower end of the connecting portion, and

wherein the fixing portion extends from one side of the connecting portion and wherein the active portion extends from another side of the connecting portion.

- 34. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the fixing end comprises an opening which is concentric to the pivot axis.
- 35. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the soil cultivating machine comprises one of a weeding machine, a hoeing machine, and a vineyard plow when the tool is installed on a rotor.
  - 36. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the tool is adapted to be

interchangeably mounted to a rotor when the tool is installed on a rotor.

- 37. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the connecting portion is arranged to be inclined relative to a center axis running through a rotor when the tool is installed on a rotor.
- 38. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the soil engaging portion extends radially outwardly from the fixing end.
- 39. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the fixing end comprises a ring adapted to receive a journal axle.
- 40. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the tool comprises a shape which resembles one of a hook and an "L".
- 41. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the soil engaging portion comprises at least one curved portion.
  - 42. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the active portion has an

inclined portion and includes a first lower surface and a second lower surface, the first lower surface being arranged above the second lower surface when the at least one tool is mounted on a rotor.

- 43. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the active portion comprises a boss portion.
- 44. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the tool is installed on a rotor which is rotatably mounted on a soil cultivating machine.
- 45. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein when the tool is mounted on a rotor, the tool is adapted to pivot freely between an angle of  $0^{\circ}$  to  $180^{\circ}$ .
- 46. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 45, wherein the tool is adapted to pivot freely between an angle of 45° to 65°.
- 47. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein when the tool is mounted on a rotor, the tool is adapted to pivot freely by an angle which is equal to or greater than 180°.

- 48. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the pivot axis is not parallel to a center axis of a rotor when the tool is mounted to a rotor.
  - 49. (Canceled).
- 50. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein when the tool is mounted on a rotor, a guide is arranged adjacent a rotor.
- 51. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein when the tool is mounted on a rotor, a fixing flange is arranged to help retain the tool on a rotor.
- 52. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the active portion comprises a surface that is approximately planar.
- 53. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 33, wherein the active portion comprises a surface that is approximately planar and is oriented at an angle relative to a plane that is substantially perpendicular to the pivot axis.
  - 54. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 53, wherein the angle is on the order of

6 degrees.

55. (New) A method of interchangeably mounting the tool of claim 33, the method comprising:

connecting the fixing end to the rotor of the soil cultivating machine,

wherein the tool is free to one of pivot and rotate about an axis running through the fixing end.

- 56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the connecting comprises arranging a journal axle within an opening of the fixing end.
- 57. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the fixing end comprises a ring and wherein the connecting comprises arranging a journal axle within a ring opening of the ring.
- 58. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising rotating the rotor in the direction of rotation.

- 59. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising rotating the rotor while the connecting portion extends downwardly from the fixing portion and while the active portion extends in the direction of rotation.
- 60. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising allowing the tool to retract about the pivot axis when the tool encounters an obstacle.
- 61. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising forming at least a portion of the active portion from a first material and at least one of the fixing end and the connecting portion of a second material, wherein the first material has greater hardness than the second material.
- 62. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising forming at least a portion of the active portion from a first material and at least one of the fixing end and the connecting portion of a second material, wherein the first material comprises a coating of greater hardness than the second material.
- 63. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising arranging a front portion of the active portion at an incline extending to the sharp leading edge.

- 64. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the pivot axis is arranged to be non-parallel to a rotor axis and further comprising allowing the tool to move about the pivot axis while the rotor rotates.
- 65. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the pivot axis is arranged to be non-parallel to a rotor axis and further comprising allowing the tool to retract about the pivot axis while the rotor rotates, whereby a distance between the sharp leading edge and the rotor axis is reduced when the tool is retracted.
- 66. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the tool is free to one of pivot and rotate, in a limited manner, about the pivot axis.
- 67. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein, when mounted on the rotor, the active portion comprises a convex outer edge, a concave inner edge and a bevel which extends from the sharp leading edge.
- 68. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the pivot axis is arranged to be non-parallel to a rotor axis and further comprising allowing the tool to retract about the pivot axis while the rotor rotates, whereby a distance between the sharp leading edge and the rotor axis

remains constant when the tool is at least partially retracted.

69. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the tool comprises a one-piece member.

70. (New) A method of interchangeably mounting the tool of claim 33, the method comprising:

connecting the fixing end to the rotor of the soil cultivating machine with a journal axle;

removing the journal axle in order to replace the tool when the tool is worn; and installing a new tool by connecting the fixing end to the rotor with the journal axle, wherein the new tool is free to one of pivot and rotate about an axis running through the fixing end.

71. (New) A method of interchangeably mounting the tool of claim 33, the method comprising:

connecting the fixing end to the rotor of the soil cultivating machine with a journal axle and a flange member;

removing the journal axle and the flange member in order to replace the tool when the tool is worn; and

installing a new tool by connecting the fixing end to the rotor with the journal axle and the flange member,

wherein the new tool is free to one of pivot and rotate about an axis running through the fixing end.

72. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the tool is free to one of pivot and rotate about the axis running through the fixing end such that the tool is tensioned by centrifugal force when the rotor rotates.